

PLEASE AMEND THE SPECIFICATION AS FOLLOWS:

In the Specification:

Please replace the entire Specification with the attached Substitute Specification.

**TITLE OF THE INVENTION****A BACKPACK TYPE SACHEL WITH A RAIN HAT AND CONNECTED CAPE**

This application claims the benefits of EP Application No. 03250411.0 filed January 21, 2003.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a backpack type satchel, and in particular to a backpack type satchel with a rain hat and connected cape.

Current school satchels or traveling backpacks generally provide no protection from the rain, and most school children generally do not carry protection from the rain at all times. Therefore, when it rains due to the sudden change in the weather, not only do the contents of the satchel or backpack become soaked, but the person's head and body also get wet, and this can constitute a danger to health. In addition, from the point of view of primary and secondary school pupils, due to their relative lack of size and physical strength, holding onto an umbrella when it rains can be difficult or dangerous.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In view of the above mentioned problems presented by current technology, embodiments of the present invention seek to provide a backpack type satchel with a rain hat and connected cape, in which the a rain hat and connected cape are attached to the satchel, and in which the a rain hat and connected cape need only be pulled out from the from the top of the backpack and placed over the head of a wearer, also covering the shoulders and the neck. Rain will then flow off the edges of the rain hat and will not flow onto the body, making its usage convenient, while effectively preventing the rain from soaking either the body or the contents of the bag, whilst also guarding against the dangers inherent in primary and secondary school pupils holding umbrella in the rain. An alternative manner of usage does not require the rain hat to be worn over the head, instead one need only hold the ends of the rain hat with both hands, allowing one to keep the upper half of the body covered, providing more effective protection from the rain.

According to the present invention, there is provided a backpack type satchel with a rain hat and connected cape, the satchel including a bag portion, characterized in that there is further provided a rain hat and a connected cape which is attached to the bag portion to form an integrated unit, in that the bag portion includes a side pocket may be stowed, and in that an edge of the hat portion of the rain hat and connected cape is provided with a flexible elastomeric frame.

Preferably, the rain hat and connected cape of the backpack type satchel with a rain hat and connected cape possesses a flexible tie strap, which allows the head and arm sections to be tied in place ensuring that the rain hat and connected cape remains firmly fixed over the body.

Preferably, seamed parts of the rain hat and connected cape of the backpack type satchel with a rain hat and connected cape employ doubled over seams.

Preferably, the backpack satchel with a rain hat and connected cape is constructed from waterproof material.

Due to the adoption of the above mentioned structures by embodiments of the present invention, when compared to current satchels or travel bags, the trouble caused by sudden rainfall when not carrying some form of protection from the rain can be reduced. Furthermore, rain can be effectively prevented from soaking the body of the objects in the bag, while also guarding against the hidden dangers inherent in primary and secondary school pupils holding umbrellas in the rain.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

For a better understanding of the present invention and to show how it may be carried into effect, reference shall now be made by way of example to accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1: shows a lateral view of the backpack type satchel with a rain hat and connected cape in use;

FIGURE 2: shows a frontal view of the embodiment of Figure 1;

FIGURE 3: shows a structure of a seam between the rain hat and connected cape;

FIGURE 4: shows a manner of usage of the satchel of an embodiment of the present invention;

FIGURE 5: shows an alternative manner of usage of an embodiment of the present invention;

FIGURE 6: shows a position of a zip for putting away the rain hat and connected cape on a large size backpack type satchel with a rain hat and connected cape; and:

FIGURE 7: shows a position of the zip for putting away the rain hat and connected cape on a medium and small size backpack type satchel with a rain hat and connected cape.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring to Figures 1 and 2, there is shown an implementation of a backpack type satchel with a rain hat and connected cape embodying the present invention. The satchel consists of a bag portion 1 and shoulder straps 2, and also includes a rain hat and connected cape 3 that may be stowed integrally with the bag portion 1. When not in use, the rain hat and connected cape 3 may be stowed within a side pocket (not shown). The backpack type satchel with a rain hat and connected cape is constructed of a waterproof material. As indicated in Figure 1, in order to make the hat portion 34 of the rain hat and connected cape 3 stick out or protrude over a face of a wearer, a flexible elastomeric or rubber tube frame is inserted into an edge part 31 of the hat 34, thus ensuring that rainwater flows down along the line of the frame and does not run onto the face. In addition, a flexible elastomeric or rubber tube frame 33 can also be inserted into the edge of the cape 35, thus causing the water running off the rain hat to flow onto the ground along the two edges of the cape 35. In order to ensure that the rain hat and connected cape remain firmly in the place on the body while running or when windy, in the region where the hat 34 and the cape 35 of the rain hat and connected cape, there is a flexible tie strap 4. The flexible tie strap 4 allows the rain hat and connected cape to be worn by persons of different sizes and statures, while also ensuring that the rain hat and connected cape fit tightly over the user's body. In addition, a flexible fastening 36 is located on the top of the rain hat 34, and when this flexible fastening is pulled forwards or backwards, it allows the rain hat 34 to be fitted appropriately to heads of different sizes when worn. With regard to

the flexible string fastening 37 on both sides of the rain hat 34, this allows for adjustment of the hat shape of the rain hat 34, allowing for its usage by persons with different shaped faces.

Apart from the aforementioned waterproof structures, the rain hat and connected cape or bag portion may employ a doubled over method of joining seams, as indicated in Figure 3, and this effectively prevents rainwater from soaking into the interior of the bag or onto the body from steams. Of course, by making the edge of the bag 1 next to the satchel zip winder, to cover the zip, this can also prevent rainwater from soaking into the interior of the bag.

Figure 4 shows a manner of usage of the satchel. As indicated in the Figure, when it rains, the waterproof rain hat and connected cape 3 can be withdrawn from the top of the satchel 1, the rain hat 34 is opened using both hands, providing immediate protection from the rain, and preventing the head and body from becoming soaked by the rain. In addition, the rain hat 34 of the waterproof rain hat and connected cape 3 is designed with a strap 4, and this strap may be fastened providing protection from the rain in the form of a hat, this is placed on the head, allowing for free movement of both hands. The rain hat and connected cape 3 of the backpack type satchel is particularly effective when sudden rainfall occurs, as it requires only a very short period of time between opening the backpack and obtaining protection from the rain; at the same time, both openings and stowing are quick and convenient.

Figure 5 shows an alternative manner of usage of the satchel. As indicated by the Figure, when it rains, one need only withdraw the rain hat and connect cape 3 from the side pocket of the satchel, and then by gripping the two ends of the rain hat 34 with both hands, one causes the rain hat and connected cape 3 to open, forming a rain sheet that can be used to cover the body, which effectively prevents rainwater from soaking the body.

In addition, embodiments of the present invention provide allowances for the usage needs of persons of differing ages and statures. In order to allow for this, the rain hat and connected cape, and the backpack type satchel, are available in large, medium and small sizes, in which cases the zipped pocket for stowing the rain hat and connected cape is located in different positions, providing the space required for storage of different sizes of rain hat and connected cape.

Figure 6 shows a large size backpack with rain hat and connected cape, and the position of the rain hat and connected cape stowage is located in 21, while a zip pocket 23 is added at the point of the cross-connection between the shoulder straps and the back, allowing sufficient storage space when stowed.

Figure 7 shows the backpack with rain hat and connected cape of large and small sizes, while the location of the stowage of the rain hat and connected cape is in the area 22 over the zip.

It can be seen from the foregoing that the backpack type satchel with a rain hat and connected cape to which the present application relates, consisting of connecting the satchel, rain hat and cape in an integral unit, which allows for the rain hat and connected cape to be stowed within the bag when not in use, and while in use, allows rainwater to flow down the edges of the rain hat and connected cape without flowing onto the body, ensures both convenience of use and effective prevention of rainwater soaking the body or the contents of the bag, while also guarding against the hidden dangers inherent in primary and secondary school pupils holding umbrellas in the rain.

The preferred features of the invention are applicable to all aspects of the invention and may be used in any possible combination.

Throughout the description and claims of this specification, the words "comprise" and "contain" and variations of the words, for example, "comprising" and "comprises", mean "including but not limited to", and are not intended to (and do not) exclude other components, integers, moieties, additives or steps.